REMARKS

Present Status of Application

Claims 1-5 remain pending in the application. The Office Action mailed on 05/08/2007 objected to Claims 1 and 3 because of some formal matters.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Applicant believes that these changes do not introduce new matter and reconsideration of Claims 1-5 is respectfully requested. In view of the above amendments and the following discussions, a notice of allowance is respectfully solicited.

Discussion for Objections

The Office Action objected to Claim 1 because the phrase "state-dependent description" is unclear as to what it is intended to encompass. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to define the phrase "state-dependent description" according to the following recitation of paragraph 0018 of the specification: "The so-called state-dependent description herein indicates that a delay data of the I/O path is described by a description associated to different input status of the cell."

The Office Action further objected to Claim 1 because the plural and singular recitations of the phrase "state-dependent description" are inconsistent. Applicant has amended Claim 1 by replacing the plural recitation with singular recitation. After amendment, all recitations of the phrase "state-dependent description" in Claims 1-5 are in singular form.

-4-

The Office Action objected to Claim 3 because the limitation "the state" in "associated to the state" is unclear. Applicant has amended Claim 3 by removing the ambiguous phrase "associated to the state". The amendment of Claim 3 is based on the following recitation of paragraph 0023 of the specification: "Wherein, if the state-dependent description is not present in the cell description, or the state-dependent description is present in the cell description, and the result obtained from referring the IC design description indicates that there is no delay data description for the state which is not intended to be used, the cell description is kept unchanged in the SDF file...".

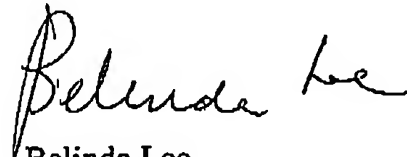Applicant believes that the aforementioned amendments of Claims 1 and 3 are sufficient to overcome the objections.

-5-

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 12978-US-PA
Application No.: 10/710,420

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all pending claims are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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-6-